

Southern California Association of Governments

RTP Development Framework

Challenges and Proposed Approach

System Metrics Group, Inc.



As we move towards developing the draft RTP, we must recognize the challenges facing the region

- **≻**Funding
- **➤Unmet needs**
- >SAFETEA-LU requirements
- **▶** Air quality conformity
- >System performance (just discussed)
- **▶** Proposed RTP development framework



Funding Challenges

- Revenues projected through 2035
- Projects were compiled from stakeholders long range plans through 2030
- ➤ Despite the horizon year differences, all or almost all of the \$240 billion revenues (in \$2007 dollars) are fully allocated:
 - Committed projects (Baseline)
 - Projects that have received environmental approvals (Tier 2)
 - Planned projects beyond Baseline and Tier 2 (even if only partially funded in long range plans)

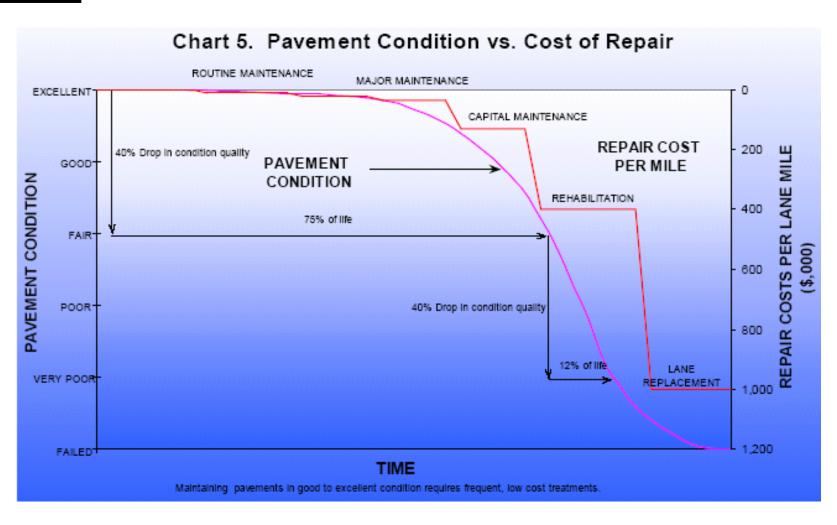
ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Unfunded Needs Challenges Preservation and Operations

- State Highway Operation and Protection Plan (SHOPP) 10 Year Analysis
 - Statewide needs identified in the 2005 Plan were \$29.7 billion
 - Statewide needs identified in the 2007 Plan increased to \$55 billion
 - Funding is expected to be around \$2.5 billion annually
 - Full funding of the needs would require an additional \$3 billion annually
- Counties and cities have identified additional shortfalls for the local arterial and street systems
 - Los Angeles County identified unmet needs of close to \$2B (in 2002 dollars)
 - Orange County estimated unmet needs of between \$300M and \$700M over the next 15 years



Preservation needs will likely grow over time unless we address needs in a timely manner



ASSOCIATION OF GOVERNMENTS

Unfunded Needs Challenges Special Projects (most included in previous RTPs)

- > Goods Movement
 - High Capacity Corridor (e.g., truck lanes)
 - Rail Expansion/Grade Separations/Emission Reduction strategies
 - Inland/Agile Port
- > 710 Tunnel
- > IOS High Speed Rail
- ➤ Additional Transit Investments to Support Growth Strategy
- High Desert Corridor
- ➤ Although we do not have final estimates for each project, it is safe to say that the unmet needs of these projects will likely be in the tens of billions.



SAFETEA-LU and Air Quality ChallengesFiscal Constraint Scrutiny and Stringent Attainment Requirements

- ➤ Assumptions for self-financing must be backed up with detailed funding plans to demonstrate fiscal constraint
- ➤ To date, none of the analyses conducted suggest that any of these projects can be fully funded without significant public sector financial contributions
- ➤ Although SCAG has not received its "official" emission budgets, attainment years are near and the reductions needed are significant



Proposed RTP Development Framework

- Development of a Core RTP
 - Includes all projects that are funded (Baseline, Tier 2, and Planned)
 - Includes approved growth strategy to help with air quality and performance
 - Includes low-cost transit enhancements that support approved growth strategy
 - Meets conformity



Proposed RTP Development Framework

- Development of an Expanded RTP
 - Includes the Core RTP
 - Includes additional funding to address some or all of the unmet needs (depending on policy guidance)
 - > State Gasoline Tax (or equivalent) increase can finance preservation, some of the State Highway System investments (e.g., truck lanes, 710 tunnel, High Desert Corridor)
 - > TEU Fee can help finance freight and goods movement projects
 - Countywide Mitigation Fee Programs
 – can help provide local contribution to many of the projects
 - > Tolls can help finance corridor specific projects (e.g., High Desert Corridor, truck lanes)
 - Private sector (PPP) can help finance mutually beneficial projects (e.g., rail strategies)



Ramifications of this proposed approach

- ➤ The FHWA/FTA should, at a minimum, approve the Core RTP. This would allow the projects in the pipeline to progress normally
- ➤ SCAG would identify specific milestones for each project/investment in the Expanded RTP
- SCAG would ask the FHWA/FTA to allow projects in the Expanded RTP to progress to the extent certain milestones are met successfully
- ➤ We plan to propose this approach to the TCC on August 30th, so your feedback would be appreciated!